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FINAL

LIGHTS OF CELEBRATION, TRIBUTE



Rebecca Droke/Post-Gazette

Volunteers with the American Cancer Society hold up lights in tribute to those affected by cancer as the PPG Plaza Tree is lit during the Comcast Light Up Night on Friday in Downtown. To watch a video, visit post-gazette.com.

Commission grants Cheyney another year of accreditation

By Bill Schackner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The body that accredits Cheyney University notified the school's president late Friday that it has agreed to extend its accreditation for another year on a probationary basis, citing progress made by the struggling campus to right financial and other woes.

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education's decision is a major boost to one of the nation's oldest historically black colleges. Although the school must submit another report in a year, and still faces formidable obstacles, it gives Cheyney precious time to begin implementing a plan developed earlier this year to sustain itself.

"I am very pleased that Middle States has recognized the effort that has been put forth by this university and many, many others outside the university to position us to get this work done," Cheyney president Aaron Walton said by phone after receiving the late afternoon call.

Officials have said the 180-year-old university in suburban Philadelphia could not have survived if the commission had pulled its accreditation, because it would have rendered the university and its students

SEE **CHEYNEY**, PAGE A-8

Sorry, celebrities: Most apologies for sexual misdeeds are falling short

By Julian Routh
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

In the court of public opinion, a "sorry" counts for something.

But just how much an apology matters in the face of sexual assault allegations has been the subject of a debate in recent weeks. As the list grows of prominent men accused of committing sexual indecencies — Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., is the most recent — so do the critiques of how they respond.

So what makes a good apology? Karina Schumann, an assistant professor in the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Psychology who has done extensive research on the art of apologizing, said an effective apology takes full responsibility for one's actions, acknowledges the harm done to the victims and offers a sincere recommitment to a moral standard.

When the first wave of allegations came out against movie producer Harvey Weinstein in October, he reacted with a statement that shifted the blame from his actions in the first paragraph, Ms. Schumann said.

"I came of age in the '60s and '70s, when all the rules about behavior and the workplace were different. That was the culture then," Mr. Weinstein said.

Though he said it is no excuse, it is an attempt to situate his behavior "in growing up in a

SEE **APOLOGY**, PAGE A-4

Officer shot, killed in New Kensington

Suspect sought after traffic stop incident

By Andrew Goldstein and Bill Schackner
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

A police officer was shot Friday after making a traffic stop in New Kensington and died later at a hospital. Police were searching for the shooter.

New Kensington police Chief Jim Klein in a late night press briefing identified the slain officer as Patrolman Brian Shaw.

The shooting occurred at 8:07 p.m. near the 1200 block of Leishman Avenue, according to a supervisor with the Westmoreland County Department of Public



Rebecca Droke/Post-Gazette

A SWAT team walks along Locust Street in the New Kensington neighborhood where a police officer was shot Friday.

SEE **OFFICER**, PAGE A-3

State imposes \$2.4M penalty on PWSA

Deadline missed on lead line replacements

By Adam Smeltz
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pennsylvania environmental regulators slapped the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority with a \$2.4 million penalty, scolding the utility over an unauthorized change in treatment chemicals, a failure to replace enough lead water pipes and other shortfalls.

Under an agreement announced Friday, the state Department of Environmental Protection said up to \$1.8 million from the penalty could go toward "community improvements," such as private lead service line replacements for low-income homeowners. PWSA pledged to accelerate the state-ordered removal of lead lines after it missed an initial deadline.

"Typically, a community environmental project accounts for not more than half of a penalty assessment," said Ron Schwartz, the DEP acting southwest regional director, in a statement. "But we felt that this situation warranted a much more robust effort to assist homeowners, upgrade the system and restore public trust in the water that flows from their faucets."

PWSA "acknowledges the missteps of the past" and has "either already corrected them or has work underway that will address

SEE **PWSA**, PAGE A-3

Parents of slain Pitt student lament flaws in PFA process

By Paula Reed Ward
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Alina Sheykhet left the Zone 4 Pittsburgh police station Oct. 5 frustrated and angry.

A temporary protection-from-abuse order she had obtained against her ex-boyfriend 14 days earlier had never been served on him. When she went to talk to police at the Squirrel Hill station to make sure it would be, her parents said, an officer gave her the run-around.

"He was laughing to her face. They didn't even take her serious," Alina's mother, Elly Sheykhet, said. "I was surprised."

Elly and her husband, Yan Sheykhet, said the officer mocked Alina for failing to provide Matthew Darby's home address in Greensburg and for not having a

SEE **PARENTS**, PAGE A-3

Weather

Breezy, occasional rain.
Daytime high, 56;
tonight's low, 36.
Page A-8

Bridge **E-4**
Business **B-6**
Classified **E-1**
Comics **D-4**
Crosswords **E-4**
Editorials **A-6**

Horoscope..... **E-4**
Local News **B-1**
Lottery **B-2**
Magazine **D-1**
Movies **D-3**
Obituaries **B-3**

Perspectives **A-7**
Pets **D-1**
Pgh in Focus **A-2**
Scoreboard **C-9**
Sports **C-1**
Television **D-5**

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